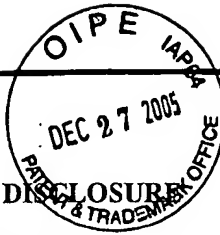


FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)



Attorney Docket Number	51210/U56
Application Number	10/673,828
Filing Date	September 29, 2003
Applicant(s)	Gregory Bates, et al.
Group Art Unit	1725
Examiner Name	Maria Alexandra Elve

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T ⁶ (✓)

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
AC		LASER INSTITUTE OF AMERICA, Handbook of Laser Materials Processing, Chapter 1: Overview of Laser Materials Processing pg.11, Magnolia Publishing, Inc., USA

SLS PAS658959.1.-12/23/05 3:58 PM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	M. Alexandra Elve	DATE CONSIDERED	2/16/06
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.			

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE